Code of Ethics for doctors

2318. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government or Medical Council of India have at any time in recent years considered in depth the malady and malpractices involving doctors accepting rebates/discount/commission from private clinical laboratories/X-ray/Ultrasound and Scan Centres and laid down any Code of Ethics/regulations in this regard for doctors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any mechanism to ensure that the aforesaid code is enforced effectively and defaulters brought to book;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the effective measures taken to eliminate the kickback culture existing between doctors and laboratories/Scan Centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) As per the Code of Medical Ethics of Medical Council of India it has been prescribed that a physician shall not give, solicit, or receive nor shall he offer to give, solicit or receive, any gift, gratuity, commission or bonus in consideration of or return for the referring, recommending or procuring of any patient for medical, surgical or other treatment. These provisions shall apply with equal force to the referring, recommending or procuring by a physician of any person, specimen or material for diagnostic, or other study or work. The Medical Council of India or the State Medical Councils are empowered to award such punishment as deemed necessary or even removal of the name of any registered practitioner from the Register altogether or for a specified period in respect of any act of violation of the Code of Ethics which may be brought before it, after conducting an enquiry.

Action Taken by CVC and CBI on Dropsy deaths

2319. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4320 given in the Rajya Sabha on 5th May, 2000 regarding Dropsy deaths and state:

(a) the details of action taken by CVC and CBI, so far; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?